

NEARING ITS CLOSE.

GREAT ACTIVITY MARKS LAST DAYS OF THE CAMPAIGN.

ELECTOR STAPLES TO SPEAK TO-NIGHT

He WILL Address the Democrats at Belvidere Hall—Mr. Kersse's Open Letter on Archbishop Ireland—Campaign Gossip.

The campaign will practically end tomorrow night. The great battle is almost upon us, and the Democrats throughout the country will make one last supreme effort to-day and to-morrow to close all the gaps in their ranks and to be ready to march to the polls next Tuesday with a solid front.

The campaign orator will put in his best ticks these last two days, and then await the decision of the people. Monday will be a busy day, and there will be some speeches, but the party leaders will devote themselves for the most part to arranging for the work of the next day. The Democrats of Virginia approach the election with bright spirits and feeling hopeful—yea, sanguine—of the triumph of Bryan and the great principles that he so ably represents.

MR. STAPLES SPEAKS TO-NIGHT. Hon. A. P. Staples, of Roanoke, elector for the Sixth District, will speak at Belvidere Hall to-night. The meeting will be one of the last of the canvas, and it bids fair to be one of the best. It is held under the auspices of the Business-Men's Club, of which Colonel A. S. Buford is president. The Committee of Arrangements have perfected all the details, and expect a large turnout.

Mr. Staples, who was for several years an influential member of the State Senate, is one of the strongest campaign speakers here. He has been invited to speak at the meeting of the Business-Men's Club last week, and all who heard him were carried away with his address. He does not affect oratory, but uses facts in an argumentative and convincing manner. His discussion of the currency question is regarded by many as the most made here during the campaign.

Mr. James Lewis Anderson will introduce Mr. Staples to-night.

ALL BRING CHEERING NEWS. In the absence of Secretary Butler, who is doing effective work in the central District, Chairman Elyson's duties are especially exacting just now. He devotes practically his whole time to politics, and keeps several stenographers and a corps of clerks busy. Mr. Elyson has no doubt about the result in Virginia, but he is not taking anything for granted. He was engaged yesterday making the final revision of the list of appointments.

Both the letters received by Mr. Elyson and the visitors at headquarters bring more cheering news. Among the visitors yesterday were Messrs. Richard E. Byrd of Winchester, and H. W. Price, of Green Bay. Mr. Byrd is an enthusiastic supporter of the Democratic ticket, and he has been making speeches in Buckingham and Cumberland counties. He reports the situation from a Democratic standpoint as all right. He has addressed large audiences, and found Democratic enthusiasm running high. Mr. Byrd says that Frederick county will give a big Democratic majority, as will the entire Seventh District.

Mr. Price, who is vice-president of the Green Bay Bryan and Sewall Club, called at headquarters. He reports a big joint meeting of the Moherrin and Green Bay clubs on Tuesday night. He said: "Our men are determined that the law shall be enforced on election-day, and that there shall be no intimidation. I am confident that Prince Edward will give the Democratic ticket a big majority. Palmer and Buckner will get but two votes at Green Bay Precinct. The Populists are with us to a man."

Mr. Joseph W. Hazelgrove, one of Cumberland's most intelligent and prosperous citizens, was in the city yesterday. He was questioned as to the outlook in his county, the gentleman stated that he confidently expected to see Cumberland give the Democratic ticket a majority, a thing it has not done in the national election since the war. Out of thirty-five Republicans personally known to Mr. Hazelgrove, only four could be named who expected to vote the ticket of their party. He stated he would not vote at all. That Virginia will give the ticket \$5,000, no reasonable man doubts, says Mr. Hazelgrove.

Mr. Mac Jones made two speeches Tuesday in Amherst County. He attended a barbecue at Oakville, where he spoke, and in the evening addressed a large audience at the court-house. There he spoke two hours and a quarter, his hearers urging him to proceed when he was about to conclude his address, after he had spoken a little over an hour.

THE COUNTRY FOR DRYAN.

The encouraging reports being received here are not confined to Virginia, but cover the country at large as well. A Richmond gentleman yesterday received a letter from a Republican member of the Chicago Board of Trade, in which he says:

"Well, Old Hoss, you wanted me to tell you who was going to be the next President. Well, I ain't any fortune-teller, but I am betting all my money on Billy Bryan, and if you want to make some money, bet yours the same way. The McKinley men here are asking odds now; we have bet them to a standstill. The eastern men are not coming this way any longer. They realize we have them and are not willing to ask long odds. I see your State is for Bryan. You do all you can to help him if you want prosperity to stand. If McKinley gets elected we will not be any better off than now."

This bears out other messages received here within the last few days from the Central West. A travelling representative of one of the largest insurance companies in the United States is in the city. He has just come from the West, and says that though he is a Republican, he is ready to concede Bryan's election. He does not believe McKinley has any chance of success.

MR. KERSSE ON BISHOP IRELAND. Mr. Timothy Kersse, who resides at 721 west Marshall street, and is a member of Bishop Ireland's Catholic Knights of America, has addressed an open letter to the Fellow-Catholics of America, in which he severely criticizes the recent letter of Archbishop Ireland of St. Paul, Minn., advising the people to vote for McKinley. Mr. Kersse first wrote to the Archbishop, asking him if the letter was really written and endorsed as wholly by him, but has received no reply, and therefore issues the open letter. He charges that on the twentieth Sunday after Pentecost his Grace "put aside his episcopal robes that he might not be holding feasts for plutocracy and continuities."

"I have driven the money-changers out of the temple; His servant, John Ireland, opens wide his arms to embrace them!—ah, Dear Archbishop! beware lest your words come back to afflict you, and those who may be silly enough to give them credit."

"Who will protect you and them when a mob aroused to frenzy by your un-Catholic utterances shall swell the old cry of 'Down with Popery' when race hatred and religious prejudice shall be used by theological demagogues like yourself to sway the masses?—and what against race? Will the money-changers throw themselves into the imminent deadly breach, and perish limb and life in defense of the sacred muntiments of our Holy Mother Church? You know from past experience, and all good Catholics know that they will not."

"Fellow-Catholics, rise up in your might, and give the world to understand that you are not, as some would have you to appear, a priest-ridden people. Avert the scandal which his inconsiderate action would attach to that God-loving and God-serving clergy."

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Govt Report.

**Royal Baking Powder**  
ABSOLUTELY PURE.

whose ministrations have ever been in accord with the teachings of our Divine Lord and Master, Jesus. Vote your conscientious convictions at the polls—whether for one or the other of the great political parties—and let John Ireland and all other advisers feel that you know your rights, and knowing dare maintain."

In his letter to Archbishop Ireland Mr. Kersse says:

"That you may be advised that I am a true, faithful, and devoted member of the Holy Mother Church, I respectfully refer you, as to this character, to the present Bishop, the Right Rev. A. Van de Vyver; also to Bishop Kersse, late of the University of Washington, D. C.; to Archbishop James of New Orleans, Pe., to Archbishop Chapelie, of Santa Fe, and to His Eminence, Cardinal Gibbons. All these distinguished prelates make me intimate' and I doubt not will take pleasure, if requested, to recommend me to your Grace's favorable consideration."

## NOTES OF THE CAMPAIGN.

Crowds poured in at Republican headquarters yesterday, many of the callers being negroes. All wanted to catch a glimpse of the "black." There were also many callers at Holtocratic headquarters. The Union Democratic Club will hold a rousing meeting at Powell's Hall, Church-Hill avenue, to-night. Mr. J. H. Oberly, Hon. D. C. Richardson, and other distinguished speakers will be on.

A well-known physician in this city has made up a table, the result of careful study, showing how he thinks each State will go in the coming election. In it he gives Bryan 45% of the electoral votes, and McKinley 55%. He concedes Illinois to the Republicans.

Another gentleman, who is looking for McKinley money to cover his, which he will wager on Bryan's election, gives him 19% electoral votes: McKinley, 142, and puts down 100 as doubtful.

Mr. P. S. George Barnard met Colonel Jack Kemple in joint discussion at Matacena Tuesday, and though the meeting had been called by the Republicans, he captured the crowd. Colonel Kemple got mad when he saw the enthusiasm which his opponent stirred up, and angrily declared that very probably Captain Lamb would be unseated, even if elected, as there would be a Republican Congress.

The floral offerings were most profuse and beautiful, consisting principally of the flowers the deceased so loved—roses and violets.

## SAVED THE CITY MONEY.

## How Repairs to the Fire-Alarm System Were Made After the Storm.

Mr. W. H. Thompson, Superintendent of the Fire Alarm and Police Telegraph, has presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners his report of the operations of the Alarm Department for the month ending October 26th, reference to which was made in yesterday's Dispatch. In his communication Superintendent Thompson speaks of the great damage done to the system by the recent severe storm. He reports twenty-one boxes as blown out, and poles and wires injured and wrecked, while a great many of the call-bells were ruined, and it is necessary to replace them and renew them. Says the Superintendent in this connection:

"Within forty-eight hours a majority of the fire-alarm boxes had been removed and replaced, particularly those in the centre of the city. Had this work been sent to the factory, it would probably have cost the city (based on former factory repairs of like nature), between \$2,000 and \$3,000 for repairs, while, as a matter of fact, we have done the work in our own shop at a cost of but little more than \$100.

"Again, had this work been sent to the factory we would have been without fire-alarm stations at these vital points for a week or ten days at least, whereas, as above stated, they were replaced within forty-eight hours—a matter of greater consideration than cost of repairs."

"While the instruments are now in good working order, the construction throughout the entire city will have to be given a general overhauling."

In concluding his report Superintendent Thompson says that the Police Department has notified him of the existence upon the streets of the city of sixty-five dangerous poles, which will have to be inspected, and the owners given proper notice.

A Pleasant Surprise Party.

A delightful surprise-party was held to Miss Maggie Taylor at her residence, No. 1919 Pleasant street, the night ago by her friends. Among those present were Miss Reuben and Peevey McDowell, Maggie, Minnie, Victoria and Lily Crowder, Daisy Smith, Daisy Gathright, Lily Stutz, Nora Davidson, May Henderson, Miss Payne, of Clifton Forge; Misses Bettie Nun, Mayme and Annie Lemay, and Maggie Taylor; also the following gentlemen: Messrs.

Miss Moomaw, who will appear for the first time before a Richmond audience to-night, has a rich soprano voice of high range, and her style of singing is unique. She will take part are Misses Maud Porter, Annie Duke, and Messrs. Charles W. Hunter, Jr., and William Whitfield.

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## Men's Suits.

\$3.25 for Men's Suits—\$2.98 for Men's Overcoats—\$3.25 strong and durable, were manufactured to sell for \$8.

\$5.98 for Men's All-Wool Suits in any desirable shade and style; regular selling price \$10.

\$7.50 for Fine Blue and Black Cheviot Suits, single or double-breast; regular price \$13.50.

\$8.50 for Fine Silk-Mixed Cutaway Suits, sizes 36 to 42; cannot be duplicated for less than \$18 and \$20.

Men's Pants.

\$1.50 Strong Working Pants—our consignment price 75¢.

\$3.50 Men's All-Wool Pants—our consignment price \$11.47.

\$4.50 Men's Pure Cassimere Pants—our consignment price \$2.23.

Boys' All-Wool Long-Pants Suits regular selling price \$8, \$10, and \$12.

Rather than receive them back we were ordered to sell them at \$4.98.

Children's Suits.

'Way Below Half Price.

\$2.75, \$3.50, \$4, and \$4.50

All-Wool Suits.

OUR CONSIGNMENT PRICE.....\$1.98.

A. GREENTREE,

429 EAST BROAD ST., NEXT TO CORNER FIFTH.

THE COHEN CO.

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